

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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MAYOR



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Mayor Healy to Raise Pakistani Flag at City Hall In Celebration of 61 Years of Independence

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, the Municipal Council, and the Division of Cultural Affairs will be celebrating the 61st Pakistani Independence Day by raising the National Flag of Pakistan during a ceremony at 11 a.m. on Thursday, August 14, 2008 at City Hall, 280 Grove Street.

“The Pakistani community is a vital part of the cultural and economic fabric that makes up our ‘Tapestry of Nations’,” said Mayor Healy. “Through their professional skills, they have made significant contributions in the economic, business, education, and health fields.”

Pakistan achieved their independence on August 14, 1947 pursuant to the withdrawal of the British Raj. The creation of an independent dominion of Pakistan was stipulated by the British Parliament in the Indian Independence Act of 1947.

The word 'Pakistan' has been coined from the names of those regions that make up this nation - Punjab, Afgan Border States, Kashmir, Sind and Baluchistan. Even after 1947, Pakistan remained a dominion for nine years. It was only on the 23rd of March, 1956, that the country was declared an Islamic Republic. East Pakistan broke away and proclaimed sovereignty in 1971, forming the Republic of Bangladesh.

Today, Pakistan is comprised of the major provinces - Sind, Baluchistan, Punjab and the North West Frontier Province along with the Federal Capital and other tribal areas. The tribal areas coming under the government of Pakistan are Khyber, Kurram, Malakand, Mohmand, North Waziristan and South Waziristan. The capital city of the country is 'Islamabad'.

For further information regarding the Flag Raising, please contact the Division of Cultural Affairs at 201-547-6921.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///